

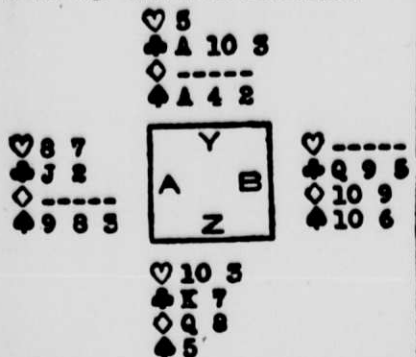
# PROBLEMS FOR "SUN" READERS TO SOLVE

**Kinsey's False Trails Lead Bridge Experts Up Blind Alleys.**

**MIDDLE GAME IN CHECKERS**

**Novel Puzzles in Figures for the Summer Class in Arithmetic.**

Bridge problem No. 232, by S. C. Kinsey, has the usual Kinsey twist to it, requiring the solver to follow up several different trails before he is sure that he has the required number of tricks safe in his bag. Here is the distribution:



There are no trumps and Z is in the lead. Y and Z want six tricks against any defense.

The solution is for Z to lead the spade, and Y's play depends on whether A covers or not, as Y can force B into the lead in either case. If A covers with the eight or nine Y wins with the ace and returns the suit, putting B in. Z discarding the eight of diamonds. One of the minor perfections of this problem is that whether B gives up the ten of spades or not, Y must still win the second round, or A will have to make Y's small spade good.

If B leads a diamond, Z wins with the queen. A cannot discard a heart, or two hearts and two clubs settle the matter at once. He cannot let go a spade without making Y's four good for a trick, so he must discard the club. Y also discards a club. Now Z makes the king of clubs and leads the seven, putting Y in. By this time A has unguarded the hearts or has made the small spade good. Y can lead either suit.

The same situation may be brought about by Z's discarding a heart on the second spade. A doing the same, and because when Z leads the king, and then the heart ten, B will be the player in difficulties. Y discarding to fit the situation, probably keeping three clubs.

In case A plays a diamond on the first spade trick B will be allowed to win it. Now if B returns the spade, so as to get rid of the lead, Z discards a heart. Y wins the spade trick with the ace and leads a small club, which Z wins with the king. Then the ten of hearts brings B to the small difficult position with his diamond.

Z may vary this by discarding the diamond instead of the heart on the return of the spade by B. This makes it possible for the club Z can lead the queen of diamonds, forcing the decisive discard from A instead of from B and allowing Y to discard the ten of clubs. When Z leads clubs, if A has none left, he will have to discard again, while Y still holds a lead and a spade.

There is not the usual chance for false solutions to this problem, because any solution but the correct one will soon come to a blind alley if they are carefully analyzed, yet several solvers forget to go into details enough to see this, and so they get a solution which is good enough until the position is played over card by card.

The more common error was to make Z start with the club suit and to put B into the lead on the third round, so as to get a discard from A at that point. A discarding a heart. Now if B leads a diamond, Z wins it and another discard is forced from A at the same time. If he lets go a heart he will have to discard again when Z leads the hearts, and he will have to lead the heart ten and force a discard from B.

The defect in these solutions lies in not looking more closely at Y's discards. Both A and B discard after Z's lead, and Z is going to keep, and Y has to make up his mind as to the discard before B is forced to unguard anything. If Y keeps the spade, A has the nine, so that B can hold the diamond against Z. A discarding a heart, and Z leads the heart ten and forces a discard from B.

Another false solution, which was analyzed down to four or five variations by some, was to start with the heart ten and follow it with the queen of diamonds, discarding a spade or club, depending on the spade on the diamond. A and Z discarding spades. Now Z leads the small heart and gives A a trick with the eight. Y and B again discarding. A discarding a spade and discarding a spade on the queen of diamonds, and a heart he gets in, so that B must either unguard the clubs or give Z a diamond.

The defect in this solution is that B will keep all his clubs, and that A will lead the club jack when he gets in, and if Z wins the club B makes a club or a diamond. If Z wins it B makes the ten of diamonds, as it is then necessary to guard the clubs after Z is left with the lone king and cannot put Y in.

Another common false solution was to win the first trick with the ace of spades, even if A played small, making Y return the ten of clubs or the five of hearts, some choosing one and some the other. If the club Z wins it and makes his winning heart and diamond. A discarding a club. This line of play would solve, but A can defeat it by keeping the club and discarding a spade on the queen of diamonds, and a heart he gets in, so that B must either unguard the clubs or give Z a diamond.

A number of complimentary letters came to hand about the problem. Several thought it was a misprint, but it was not. No. 232 is straightforward and without trickery, but very ingeniously conceived. Rather too peppery for this period of hot waves, however. Burton D. Blair says: "This problem required a great deal of work and is one of the best I ever tried."

O. H. Boston says: "This one of Kinsey's is the best I have seen." C. H. O'Connor says: "Very intricate, but I have solved it." W. L. B. says: "I call this a heat problem." C. F. Johnson says: "A splendid example of forcing discards. One rather dislikes to lead a spade and make that suit good, but he has against one, but that is the only way."

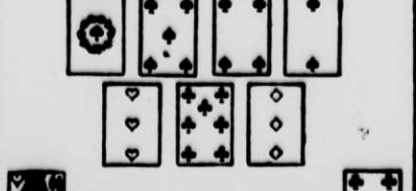
Judging from the letters received the suggestion that the honor list be dropped during the hot weather seems to have met with general approval, many correspondents saying they will be glad to be relieved of the trouble of writing out solutions during their vacation without losing their chance for a place among the experts in the next honor list.

In accordance with this plan the names of solvers for the problems from now on to No. 240 will not be published, but the cracks may look out for some pretty stiff tests from them on. J. W. Wertenbaker, Harry Boardman and Jay Reed have each sent some particularly fine problems to THE SUN, which will try the analytical powers of aspirants to the honor list to the utmost.

Here is another take all problem, which has the merit of being free from complications, reminding one of Bergolt. Once

the correct line of attack is found the rest is easy.

BRIDGE PROBLEM NO. 234.



Clubs are trumps and Z is in the lead. Y and Z want all seven tricks against any defense.

CHECKER ENDINGS.

The position shown in problem No. 232 presents a situation that is unique in one respect, inasmuch as it is practically solved in two moves, although two more are given to show the result of the first two. If these two moves are not found it is impossible for white to win.

Here is the distribution: Black men on 3 and 12; kings on 24 and 31. White men on 7 and 20; kings on 6 and 10. White to play and win. Here are the moves that solve:

White. 20-12. Black. 12-10. White. 10-6. Black. 6-4. White. 6-2. Black. 2-1. White. 1-3. Black. 3-1. White. 3-1. Black. 1-2. White. 1-2. Black. 2-3. White. 2-3. Black. 3-4. White. 3-4. Black. 4-5. White. 4-5. Black. 5-6. White. 5-6. Black. 6-7. White. 6-7. Black. 7-8. White. 7-8. Black. 8-9. White. 8-9. Black. 9-10. White. 9-10. Black. 10-11. White. 10-11. Black. 11-12. White. 11-12. Black. 12-13. White. 12-13. Black. 13-14. White. 13-14. Black. 14-15. White. 14-15. Black. 15-16. White. 15-16. Black. 16-17. White. 16-17. Black. 17-18. White. 17-18. Black. 18-19. White. 18-19. Black. 19-20. White. 19-20. Black. 20-21. White. 20-21. Black. 21-22. White. 21-22. Black. 22-23. White. 22-23. Black. 23-24. White. 23-24. Black. 24-25. White. 24-25. Black. 25-26. White. 25-26. Black. 26-27. White. 26-27. Black. 27-28. White. 27-28. Black. 28-29. White. 28-29. Black. 29-30. White. 29-30. Black. 30-31. White. 30-31. Black. 31-32. White. 31-32. Black. 32-33. White. 32-33. Black. 33-34. 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